

April 5, 2006

As one who has choices in banking with many small and personal banks from which to choose, I do not want to see the largest corporation in retail enter the banking sector. One only has to ask why Wal-Mart is spending so much on publicity, when, according to the Berkeley Reports from California, Wal-Mart has been 'bad economy' for America.

Specifically, Wal-Mart has three documented problems:

A multi million dollar discrimination suit for underpaying and not advancing the women in their employ

A history of abandonment in communities

A history of underpaying all employees and pushing health care on the state taxpayers

(ref: <http://laborcenter.berkeley.edu/lowwage/index.shtml>)

The government broke up AT&T for having an illegal monopoly. Should Wal-Mart enter the banking sector, we will now face the same problem.

I urge you not to allow such concentration of power by a company who has a track record of destroying the competition.

John Garner